

Jesus Is King

Small Group Guide

Warm-up Question: (Choose one, make up your own, or skip this part all together, depending upon the nature of your group.)

1. Describe an embarrassing moment from your childhood.
2. Do you like being around animals? Explain.

Read the following passage: Read Luke 19:28-48.

For months Jesus had been declaring that the kingdom of God was breaking into human history in a new way. Now he was making the bold and unequivocal announcement that he is the king, the long-awaited Jewish Messiah. Jesus did this through two very powerful symbolic acts: riding into Jerusalem on a donkey in fulfillment of Zechariah 9:9, and cleansing the Jewish Temple. Jesus' bold declaration set into motion a series of events that led to his crucifixion less than a week later.

Questions for Discussion (Choose several that are relevant for your group):

1. What are some ways that Jesus' kingship differed from the expectations of first-century Jews?
2. Describe how Jesus displayed humility during his public ministry. What are some practical ways we can live with humility in our present context?
3. Jesus' comment about the stones crying out is an implicit claim that he is the king of all creation. How should this claim impact how we think about other religions and statements like, "That may be true for you, but it's not true for me"?
4. Jesus wept as he entered Jerusalem. Why? What does this reveal about God?
5. The owners of the donkey surrendered their animal to Jesus' disciples after hearing the simple explanation, "The Lord needs it." What might a similar attitude look like in our lives?
6. Jesus' disciples humbled themselves (we might even say humiliated themselves) by spreading their cloaks on the ground before Jesus as he entered Jerusalem. What are some ways we may need to be willing to "shame" ourselves in the eyes of our culture in order to bring honor to Jesus?
7. Jesus' disciples "began joyfully to praise God in loud voices" as Jesus entered Jerusalem. Why do you think verbal confession of God's greatness and glory is an important act of devotion?
8. What is one way you can respond to Jesus' kingship this week?

Pray